

SAPC-20757
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MEMORANDUM FOR: Project Cover Officer

5 November 1957

THROUGH : Deputy Project Director

: Project Director of Administration

SUBJECT : Air Weather Service Proposal to Conduct U-2 Data
Missions as Contributions to the International
Geophysical Year Program

REFERENCE : Memorandum for Project Director, dated 4 November
1957, same subject (SAPC-20259)

1. My own reaction is to agree with your personal view that we should cooperate with AWS by running a few weather missions to provide data which would be exchanged with other governments participating in the IGY. I share your feeling that this will strengthen our cover story and will give an opportunity to call specifically to the attention of the Russians the valid mission of the U-2 aircraft employed in the NACA/AWS program.

2. Unless dissent is expressed by others, I suggest that you discuss this matter with [REDACTED] to ascertain their views. Also, we should consider what operational problems might be involved in running the proposed mission from [REDACTED]. This would presumably require a staging operation, which would involve a great deal of trouble unless it could be done in the very near future while Detachment A's base is still operational.

3. I would appreciate learning the results of these further explorations together with such details as the desired timing of the missions and your recommendation at your earliest convenience.

RMB:djm

S/ per m
RICHARD M. BESSELL, JR.
Project Director

1-Addressee

2-Dep. Pro. Dir.

3-Pro. Dir. of Admin.

4-Pro. Dir. of Operations

5-Chairman, Planning Group

6-Pro. Dir. Chrono

7-Pro. Dir. FU

8-Pro. Security Offr

9-Pro. Chrono (RI)